



U.S. Department of Justice
United States Attorney
Northern District of New York

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NEWS RELEASE

United States Attorney Richard S. Hartunian and Cayuga County District Attorney Jon E. Budelmann announce that STEVEN M. VALDER, age 20, of Montezuma, New York, has been sentenced in both federal and state courts pursuant to his pleas of guilty in both venues to child exploitation offenses.

On Friday, March 5, 2010, VALDER was sentenced by Hon. David N. Hurd in U.S. District Court to 15 years in federal prison and lifetime supervision, pursuant to his plea of guilty to the felony charges of transporting and shipping child pornography in interstate commerce, and of possessing child pornography that he had obtained via the Internet. In his federal plea, VALDER admitted that he transmitted images of child pornography over the Internet to an undercover officer in Virginia, whom VALDER believed to be an underage boy. He also admitted to possession of a large collection of child pornography that he had accumulated through Internet downloads and trading.

On Thursday, March 11, 2010, STEVEN M. VALDER was sentenced in Cayuga County Court to a determinate term of 10 years in state prison and an additional 10 years of post-release supervision pursuant to his guilty plea to Criminal Sexual Act in the First Degree. VALDER admitted to forcibly compelled anal sexual conduct with another person, who was, in fact, an underage boy. As a result of the conviction VALDER will also be required to register for life with the Sexual Offender Registry as a sexually violent offender.

The State and Federal sentences will run concurrently.

STEVEN M. VALDER'S arrest on these charges was the result of investigations conducted by the Cayuga County Sheriff's Office, the Cayuga County Child Protective Services, and the Cayuga County District Attorney's Office. The federal child pornography charges were based upon information provided by the Dumfries, Virginia Police Department to the Sheriff's Office. The federal case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Lisa Fletcher, who can be reached at (315) 448-0672, and the State charge was prosecuted by Cayuga County Assistant District Attorney Heather De Stefano, who can be reached at (315) 253-1391.